MAT-7855US

Appln. No.: 09/445,892

Amendment Dated August 14, 2003 Reply to Office Action of May 15, 2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a multi-layered ceramic substrate with at least one cavity, said method comprising the steps of:

forming a shrinkage suppression sheet comprising a ceramic material on at least one face of an unfired green sheet laminated body <u>comprising said at least one cavity</u>, <u>said</u> <u>shrinkage suppression sheet covering said at least one cavity</u>;

firing said green sheet laminated body on which said shrinkage suppression sheet is formed on the at least one face; and

removing said shrinkage suppression sheet by spraying ceramic powder and water together with compressed air onto said shrinkage suppression sheet on the at least one face of said green sheet laminated body after firing;

wherein said ceramic powder comprises the same ceramic material as said shrinkage suppression sheet; and the mean particle size of the particles of said ceramic powder is not greater than 10  $\mu$ m.

- 2. (Cancelled)
- 3. (Previously Presented) The method for manufacturing a multi-layered ceramic substrate as defined in Claim 1, wherein the shrinkage suppression sheet has a sintering temperature which is higher than a sintering temperature of said green sheet laminated body.
- 4. (Previously Presented) The method for manufacturing a multi-layered ceramic substrate as defined in Claim 1, wherein said compressed air has a pressure between 3.0 and 5.5 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>.
  - 5-6. (Cancelled)
- 7. (Previously Presented) The method for manufacturing a multi-layered ceramic substrate as defined in Claim 1, wherein said shrinkage suppression sheet is formed on both faces of said unfired green sheet laminated body and said ceramic powder and water is sprayed



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together with said compressed air onto said shrinkage suppression sheet on both faces of said green sheet laminated body simultaneously after firing.

8. (Previously Presented) The method for manufacturing a multi-layered ceramic substrate as defined in Claim 1, wherein said ceramic powder is collected, after spraying, for reuse.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a multi-layered ceramic substrate with at least one cavity, said method comprising the steps of:

forming a shrinkage suppression sheet comprising a ceramic material on two faces of an unfired green sheet laminated body, one of said faces comprising said at least one cavity, said shrinkage suppression sheet covering said at least one cavity;

firing said green sheet laminated body; and

removing said shrinkage suppression sheet by spraying a mixture of ceramic powder and water together with compressed air onto at least one of the two faces of said green sheet laminated body, after firing;

wherein said ceramic powder comprises the same ceramic material as said shrinkage suppression sheet; and the mean particle size of the particles of said ceramic powder is not greater than 10  $\mu$ m.

10. (Previously Presented) The method for manufacturing a multi-layered ceramic substrate as defined in Claim 9, wherein the compressed air has a pressure between 3.0 and 5.5 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>.

## 11-13. (Cancelled)

- 14. (Previously Presented) The method for manufacturing a multi-layer ceramic substrate as defined in Claim 3, wherein said ceramic material is alumina.
- 15. (Previously Presented) The method for manufacturing a multi-layer ceramic substrate as defined in Claim 7, wherein said ceramic material is alumina.

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16. (Previously Presented) The method for manufacturing a multi-layer ceramic substrate as defined in Claim 9, wherein said ceramic material is alumina.

17. (New) The method for manufacturing a multi-layer ceramic substrate as defined in Claim 1, wherein the ratio of said ceramic powder and said water is 4:96 by weight.

18. (New) The method for manufacturing a multi-layer ceramic substrate as defined in Claim 9, wherein the ratio of said ceramic powder and said water is 4:96 by weight.

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